

Message Text

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ORIGIN AF-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 SCCT-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03

H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02

SS-15 USIA-06 SY-05 CU-02 SCS-03 SCA-01 /076 R

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AF/C - MR. STRAND

S/CCT - MR. FEAREY (SUBS)

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R 141844Z JUN 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

AMEMBASSY BUJUMBURA

AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

INFO AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 139931

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: CASE (SMUTS, BARBARA), (SMITH, KENNETH STEPHEN),
(HUNTER, CARRIE JANE), PINS

SUBJ: KIDNAPPED AMERICANS:AMIN ANGLE

REF: DAR 2012, KINSHASA 5095

1. QUESTION OF AMIN'S ROLE IN EFFORTS TO OBTAIN RELEASE
OF STUDENTS IS DIFFICULT ONE. WHILE WE OBVIOUSLY DO NOT
WANT TO CLOSE DOOR ON ANY POTENTIAL AAVENUE TO
KIDNAPPERS, WE ARE RELUCTANT TO BECOME ACTIVELY INVOLVED
WITH SOMEONE AS ERRATIC, UNPREDICTABLE AND SELF-SEEKING
IN PUBLICITY AS AMIN. ANOTHER DISTRUBING FACTOR IS HIS
INTENSE INTEREST IN DOING ANYTHING WHICH MIGHT EMBARRASS
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OR PUT IN A BAD LIGHT NYERERE AND TAN GOV. WE HAVE

DISTINCT FEELING HERE THAT ANY ACTION ON OUR PART WHICH AMIN INTERPRETS AS PROVIDING GREEN LIGHT TO HIM WOULD BE ALL HE NEEDS TO TURN SPOTLIGHT ON HIMSELF AND THUS ENDANGER CONTINUED COOPERATION OF TANZANIANS AND POSSIBLY ALSO ZAIRIANS. SUCH, COOPERATION, OF COURSE, REMAINS ESSENTIAL TO SUCCESS OF OUR EFFORTS TO OBTAIN SAFE RELEASE OF STUDENTS.

2. WE BELIEVE, THEREFORE, THAT OUR PRESENT COURSE RE AMIN SHOULD BE TO ATTEMPT NEITHER TO TURN HIM OFF NOR TO TURN HIM ON. IF, HOWEVER, CHANNELS TO KIDNAPPERS FROM TANZANIAN SIDE OF LAKE WHICH ARE CURRENTLY BEING EXPLORED PROVE FRUITLESS, IT MIGHT THEN BE DESIRABLE TO

RECONSIDER POSSIBLE APPROACH TO AMIN. IN SUCH CASE WE AGREE FULLY WITH AMB. HINTON (KINSHASA 5095) THAT IT WOULD BE FAR PREFERABLE FOR DUTCH, POSSIBLY AMBASSADOR FEIN, TO MAKE THIS CONTACT.

3. WOULD APPRECIATE COMMENTS OF EMBASSIES DAR AND KINSHASA AS TO HOW THEIR RESPECTIVE CLIENTS MIGHT REACT TO MORE ACTIVE INTEREST ON OUR PART IN AMIN INITIATIVE, INCLUDING POSSIBLE DISCUSSIONS WITH AMIN. KISSINGER

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